

SB 54 An Act Concerning The Use Of Indoor Tanning Devices By Persons Under Eighteen Years Of Age.

Because of mounting evidence about the carcinogenicity of artificial UVR, support for regulations to limit teenagers' access to tanning facilities has been widespread. The World Health Organization, The American Medical Association, and the American Academy of Dermatology all support legislation to ban the use of artificial tanning devices by people younger than 18 years. The IARC review concluded that young adults should be discouraged from using indoor tanning equipment and that restricted access to sunbeds by minors should be strongly considered.

France has banned indoor tanning for people younger than 18 years since 1997; indoor tanning for those younger than 18 years also is prohibited in the province of New Brunswick, Canada. Currently (as of February 2011), more than 60% of US states regulate tanning facilities for minors.

The Indoor Tanning Association has fought against legislative initiatives and stated that legislation will harm business and that tanning is an issue of parental rights. Pediatric health advocates have countered this argument by stating that laws to limit minors' access to tanning parlors should be thought of in the same way as laws that limit youth access to tobacco. All states prohibit the purchase of tobacco products by those younger than 18 years.

The CT Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics encourages passage of this bill.